

DECEMBER 1960

Vol. 105, No. 10

BIBLE
SOCIETY

Record



“For to You is Born This Day in the City of David a Saviour, Who is Christ the Lord.”

St. Luke 2:11.

"Our Bible"

by BILLY GRAHAM

IN THE oft-quoted statement made by William Lyon Phelps, called the most beloved professor in America, we get something of the importance of the Bible. Thus the late Yale schoolman said, "I thoroughly believe in a university education for both men and women, but I believe a knowledge of the Bible without a college course is more valuable than a college course without the Bible."

The world has many thousands of people even today who agree with Phelps. Has less knowledge of the Bible been accompanied by a breakdown in our moral fiber, you ask? It certainly has! Will a return to the study of the Bible improve and raise the moral level of our people? It certainly will! It has been proved time after time in history.

The fact that Bibles are dust collectors is no longer a joke, even though we often hear stories about it. A little girl told her minister that she finally had learned everything that was in the Bible. She told the minister, "Sister's boy-friend's picture is in it, and Ma's receipt for vanishing cream, and a lock of my hair cut off when I was a baby is in it, and the ticket for Pa's watch is in it." We may smile at the child, but the tragedy is evident. How many times we have heard someone say, "Why, the Bible contradicts itself!" Very few of these persons have used the family Bible for

more than a storage place for pressed flowers.

The very first requirement placed upon the critic is that he read carefully every chapter of the Bible; then he ought to know something about the way we got our Bible, the miracles of its writing—Biblical history is fascinating and makes us appreciate the Bible, which has been preserved for us to this day. After that we ought to acquaint ourselves with a vigorous and excellent accusation made against Bible critics.

If you are setting yourself up as a critic, it's your responsibility to read and know both sides of the question. It is significant that very few Bible critics have bothered themselves to read the literature available on the defense of the Bible, much less the Bible itself. Wherever that is true, I criticize the critics. The Bible will always be the center of controversy. For many centuries there have been purges and bonfires. There are Bibles in existence today that were baked into loaves of bread to keep them from the hands of God-hating leaders who wanted to destroy the Word of God. There are Bibles in scores of languages; and organizations are working around the clock to provide Bible Portions for remote tribes so that they, too, may have something of God's Word.

You may ask of me today, "Billy, what is the message of the



Bible?" The message of the Bible is Jesus Christ. The Bible is concerned only incidentally with the history of Israel or a system of ethics. The Bible is primarily concerned with the story of the redemption of God as it is in Jesus Christ. If you read the Scriptures and miss the story of salvation, you have missed its message and its meaning.

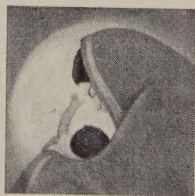
The story of the Scriptures is the story of your redemption and mine through Jesus Christ. The Scriptures teach the death, burial and resurrection of Christ. The Bible of Jesus Christ did not come preaching the Gospel—Jesus Christ is the Gospel. The death, burial and resurrection of Christ is the Gospel story, and without it you are lost and doomed.

The Bible says the only way that man can bridge the gap between man and God is through Christ. Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." Today you can accept the Christ of the Bible, you can know peace of soul, peace of conscience and peace of mind by at this moment letting Christ come into your heart by faith.

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OUR COVER

picture is by Frank Wesley of India. We are grateful to the Committee on World Literature and Christian Literature for permission to reproduce this striking picture, *The Blue Madonna*.



"PRAYER CALENDAR"

The American Bible Society is happy to present you with the Prayer Calendar on pp. 151 and 154. Be sure to fold together the center spread; then carefully bend back the rest of the *Record* and simply remove. Won't you and your family join us in praying for the advancement of His Word?

Bible Society Record

ONE OF AMERICA'S OLDEST RELIGIOUS JOURNALS, DEDICATED TO THE WIDER DISTRIBUTION
AND USE OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURES, PUBLISHED CONTINUOUSLY SINCE 1818,
SERVING MORE THAN 700,000 FAMILIES

VOLUME 105

DECEMBER 1960

NUMBER 10

Editorial

By the Rev. Dr. James
Z. Nettinga

THIS DAY

AT THE dedication of the new Bible House in Canberra, Australia, the Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. R. G. Menzies, recalled that, many years ago, when he was reading law with a very eminent constitutional lawyer and a case involving an opinion on the Constitution of the Commonwealth came up, he would say "Now, Menzies, the first thing we ought to do before we become too involved in the decisions given by the courts is to read the Constitution again." They would sit down and read it from beginning to end so that they might not miss the elements of the problem by being led into the side issues.

"All of that," said Mr. Menzies, "is an illustration of an old Latin tag, 'It is better to seek the fountainhead than to divide up the little streams.' That is a perfect description for what our approach ought to be to this great and immortal book, the Bible. Let's seek the Fountainhead—it's all there! The story . . . the history . . . the great Gospel . . . the whole spirit of Christianity is there." In the midst of the Christmas season this is an important reminder to seek the Fountainhead of our faith in the simple phrase of the Christmas story, "Unto you is born this day . . . a Saviour."

Here eternity breaks into time. "This day," said Kierkegaard, a great Scandinavian theologian, "is an eternal date, just as it is when God says 'today.' And like the books which came out 'this year' this 'today' is repeated from generation to generation for every individual in all the millions that are born. And every time someone truly becomes a Christian, it means, 'Unto you is born this day . . . a Saviour.'"

Now it is self-evident that this message of the

Fountainhead of our faith cannot become real to millions of people unless it becomes available in a living language that speaks to their heart and soul. And for this, it must be translated, published and distributed—and read.

More often this is projected for the millions overseas in the far corners of the world, where the frontier of Christian world missions is expanding and facing extraordinary challenges. And rightly so! But we can never overlook the spiritual and moral needs of the Christian community of our own land. We, too, must constantly return to the Fountainhead of

our faith. That is why your Bible Society has prepared ten million little "Unto You a Saviour" Christmas Portions and invites you to join the nationwide reading of the Christmas message and share it with others through a personal rededication in family worship, and thus strengthen corporate church fellowship and the outreach to the growing edge of the community.

This is not merely a mechanical method of logistics to increase the supply and demand of Scripture distribution. This is the logistics of our faith, which

knows no limit to the supply and demand of God's love, as revealed to the simple shepherds going about their appointed tasks when they heard the amazing words, "Unto you this day is born—a Saviour." As such it becomes an invitation to every family reading this little magazine, more than seven hundred thousand strong, to receive the same message "this day" and share it with others, for—

*"Though Christ a thousand times in Bethlehem be born,
If He's not born in thee, thy soul's forlorn."*



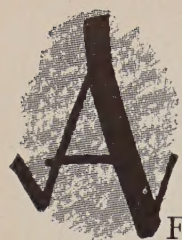
Juan Díaz G.

Honorio Espinoza

Francisco Estrello

Alfonso Lloreda

Alfonso Rodríguez H.



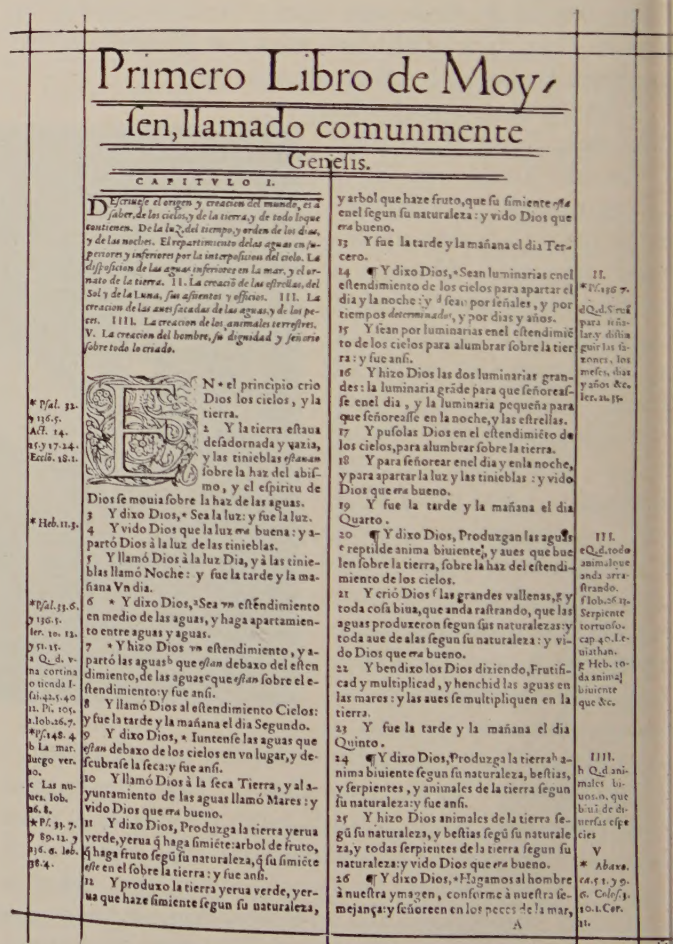
FTER almost four hundred years the request of Casiodoro de Reina has been fulfilled, for shortly after the publication of his famous Bible in 1569 he urged the appointment of a committee of scholars to go over his translation. Since that day a number of persons have made significant changes in this pioneering work, but not until 1950 was a representative committee appointed, with leading evangelical scholars from Mexico to Chile, who, with more than eighty consultants for the New Testament and over sixty for the Old, began the long, arduous task of bringing the language of Reina and Valera into agreement with contemporary usage. What this committee undertook, however, together with valuable assistance from leaders in Spain, was not unique, for minor revisions of the Reina-Valera Bible had already been made, of

which the most extensive were published in 1862 and 1909. Moreover, throughout the Spanish-speaking world scores of pastors and laymen were asked to submit to the Revision Committee their suggestions as to changes in the text that would make it more meaningful to a rapidly growing constituency.

From all those who suggested changes in the Reina-Valera text one theme was fully evident—this is the beloved form of the Holy Scriptures for Spanish-speaking evangelicals. They have come to love its eloquent style, its effective choice of words and its stately rhythms. Its translator and early reviser are profoundly honored for their heroism and devotion. Casiodoro de Reina, after fleeing from the Spanish Inquisition in 1557, carried on his work in Geneva, London, Antwerp, Frankfurt and Basle, con-



The 1569 edition of the Reina Bible was nicknamed the "Bear Bible" because of the printer's symbol on the title page.



Page 1 of Genesis of the Valera Spanish Bible. This first 1602 edition is on display in the Bible Society Library.

REINA-VALERA

by the Rev. Dr. Eugene A. Nida

Secretary for Translations

stantly harassed by authorities. Reina's younger colleague, Cipriano de Valera, who had escaped from Spain at about the same time, began a revision of Reina's work within ten years of its completion.

However, while those acquainted with the grandeur of the Reina-Valera text deeply appreciate it, at the same time they recognize that the Spanish language has undergone many variations, many words having changed in meaning, certain grammatical forms having fallen into disuse, and the orthography having been constantly altered to bring it into line with changes in general usage. Accordingly, the Revision Committee set itself the task of incorporating contemporary usage while conserving the style and meaning of this beloved text.

Despite the numerous important changes by the present Committee it must be clearly understood that a new text was not the aim. It was, however, often necessary to change the words where the ravages of time had altered the meanings or had vulgarized connotations.

Special Features of the New Bible

The Revision Committee has additionally prepared a number of very useful features which many readers have requested for years. First, all Bibles will be published with a new set of references designed to help the reader easily find parallel passages, plus references to historical events, all sources of quotations, and instances where similar themes have been treated.

Instead of these references being in a central column, they are placed more economically at the bottom of the pages. As a supplementary work, separate or bound in, a new concordance of approximately 45,000 lines contains practically all major Biblical words, with context lines providing easy reference to the more important passages in which such words occur.

One important feature is the use of section headings to identify significant portions of the text. Perhaps an even more important help is the fact that all the Bibles, regardless of size, will have exactly the same pagination. Therefore, pastors and Sunday-school teachers can refer not only to a particular book, chapter and verse, but can say precisely on what page such a passage occurs.

The Bibles will also contain such additional helps as a new set of aerial perspective maps, which provide bird's-eye views of the ancient world, and a convenient new table of weights and measures.

As the Committee prepared this revision of the rightly beloved Reina-Valera text, their work on this text greatly increased their admiration for the remarkable endeavors of their devoted predecessors. Accordingly, they tried to carry out their work with something of that same consecration, so that the prayer of Casiodoro de Reina may truly be answered by a revision which will be a blessing to countless thousands as they discover the power of the Living Christ while reading the pages of this Book of all books.

AROUND THE NATION WITH THE BIBLE SOCIETY



Miss Deanna Stops, a Crow Indian, explains something of the Bible to two migrant children in front of their barracks.



Dr. J. González Molina, Secretary of the Bible Society in Cuba, and Miss Alice E. Ball, newly appointed Secretary in the Overseas Department, examine Spanish Portions in the new edition.



Chaplain Ivan L. Bennett (left), Major General, retired, former Chief of U. S. Army Chaplains and now Secretary of the American Bible Society in Washington, D. C., presents an A.B.S. Bible to Major General Frank A. Tobey, Chief of Chaplains of the U. S. Army, in commemoration of the 185th Anniversary of the Chaplains Corps.



The Rev. Garner E. Hoyt, the Society's Secretary in Haiti, admires one of the first Haitian Creole New Testaments produced by the American Bible Society.

1961 January 1961

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
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AFRICA—Pray that the present wide opportunities for spreading the Gospel may continue in this turbulent part of the world.

1961 February 1961

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
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EAST—Pray that many tribes people in remote villages may be reached and respond to the Gospel.

1961 March 1961

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
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BIBLE HOUSE—Pray for the Bible Society family, throughout the world, that they may be increasingly aware of their role in circulating Scriptures.

Our Prayer Calendar

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY • 450 Park Avenue • New York 22, New York



I exhort therefore, that, first of all supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all that are... in authority; that we may lead... a life in all godliness and honesty.

1 Timothy 2:1-2

A Christmas Message

THE REV. DR. RALPH W. SOCKMAN

HOW OLD is Christmas? Viewed as a festival, it is only about sixteen hundred years old. We have no record that the Feast of the Nativity was celebrated prior to the fourth century. But is that the date by which the age of Christmas is to be determined? Presumably most of us would say that Christmas, the birthday of Jesus of Nazareth, dates from the decree of Caesar Augustus, in obedience to which Joseph and Mary went up to Bethlehem to register. But the beginning of Christmas may be dated as we might calculate the beginning of a church. We might say that the age of a church dates from the day it was opened for worship. Or we might hold that the birthday of a church is the day on which the cornerstone was laid. Or we might go further back and say that a church began at the time the decision was made to form it.

So it is with the age of Christmas. As a festival of worship it entered in the fourth century. But the cornerstone of Christmas was laid in a Bethlehem manger at the Birth of Him who is called the chief cornerstone in the household of faith. But back of Bethlehem were the dreams of a deliverer cherished by the people of Israel; it is held that there are 141 prophecies of Christ's coming in the Old Testament.

And this expectation of a redeemer was not limited to the Hebrew people. Plato, the Greek philosopher, said that "only by way of some divine disclosure coming into life from outside it, could men find the way of truth and freedom." Yes, the beginnings of Christmas go back to the dreams of redemption cherished by suffering people and wise men, not only in Israel but in Greece and throughout the East. Ah, we can even go further and say that Christmas began in the heart of God; for as John said, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."

This longer view helps mature minds in approaching the Christmas celebration. So many adults seem to think that the Bethlehem accounts are just a beautiful story for children and that in entering into the Nativity stories we have to check our intellects at the door and lower our heads, as tourists do when entering the Church of the Nativity at Bethlehem. If we are wise enough we shall see the Bethlehem event as the vast panorama of Messianic expectation drawn to the scale of a miniature which even a child can grasp. And this larger view of Christmas helps us to understand also the incorporation of non-Christian elements in our festival. Hence, today let us



WHERE GOD COMES

IN

ponder one of the broadest and most inclusive lines in the Christmas story. It is what Luke says happened to the shepherds as they were watching their flocks by night. This is the line: *"And glory of the Lord shone round about them."* It is deeply significant that in the Christmas story the glory of the Lord shone round about the shepherds. They were humble folk. Anyone who has traveled in Palestine knows the drabness of the shepherds' life. They lived among their flocks and but little above them in their standard of living. Like sheep, the shepherds were wet by the rains and chilled by the winds. Like sheep, they were led about by those above them, for they lived in a conquered nation and were among the least of the subjects.

Yet, unlike sheep, the shepherds did not nourish a feeble

life within the brain. They had heard reports of prophets who foretold that a Messiah would visit His people to redeem them. They were longing for such a heaven-sent Saviour, who would give meaning and value to their life in this world and hope for a life beyond.

And on that first Christmas night "the glory of the Lord shone round about" the shepherds. To them came the announcement, "Unto you is born this day in the City of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord." They responded, "Let us go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass." And the report is that the shepherds returned from Bethlehem "glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen." These shepherds on the Bethlehem hillsides stand as symbolic of the earth's plain people,

longing for deliverance from "the whips and scorns of time" and for salvation from the dread of something after death. That Bethlehem-born Babe did convince the world that he triumphed also over death. He is the Saviour for time and eternity. For this double reason the Scriptures can say of the shepherds on that first Christmas, "the glory of the Lord shone round about them."



Sun. Mon. Tues. Wed. Thu. Fri. Sat.
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TRANSLATORS—Many areas of the world do not yet have the Gospel. Bless all translators as they seek to reveal the message of the Living Christ.

Sun. Mon. Tues. Wed. Thu. Fri. Sat.
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THE RECORD—Pray that the Bible Society Record may bring inspiration to over 700,000 homes interested in the world covering use of the Scriptures.

Sun. Mon. Tues. Wed. Thu. Fri. Sat.
1 2 3 4 5 6 7
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BIBLE SOCIETIES BEHIND IRON CURTAINS—May God strengthen those persecuted for righteousness' sake to overcome by the power of the Word.

1961 May 1961
Sun. Mon. Tues. Wed. Thu. Fri. Sat.
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1961 August 1961
Sun. Mon. Tues. Wed. Thu. Fri. Sat.
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1961 November 1961
Sun. Mon. Tues. Wed. Thu. Fri. Sat.
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ANNUAL MEETING—Pray for the Annual Meeting, that Our Heavenly Father may supply wisdom for the problems of distributing His Word.

NEW CONVERTS—May the Lord uphold new converts as they study the Word of Life, making them stand strong in His promise: "Lo, I am with you always."

ADVISORY COUNCIL—May the Lord bless the deliberations of the delegates, locking their visions to His purpose.

1961 June 1961
Sun. Mon. Tues. Wed. Thu. Fri. Sat.
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BIBLES IN BRAILLE—Pray that the Bible Society's ministry to the blind may further lighten their darkness.

1961 September 1961
Sun. Mon. Tues. Wed. Thu. Fri. Sat.
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COLPORTEURS—Pray for the Colporters, in lonely, far-off places, that the Lord may encourage them as they toil under unkind odds for the Book of books.

1961 December 1961
Sun. Mon. Tues. Wed. Thu. Fri. Sat.
1 2
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24/31 25 26 27 28 29 30

OUR GIFTS—Grateful for our part in the distribution of God's Word, we pray that we may help provide the two million Scriptures needed monthly.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 28, 1960

TO THE AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY:

During this year, our people have been concerned with America's "national purpose." This purpose was stated long ago in the preamble to our Constitution. It has been given substance by the concerted actions of our citizens serving at home and abroad since 1787.

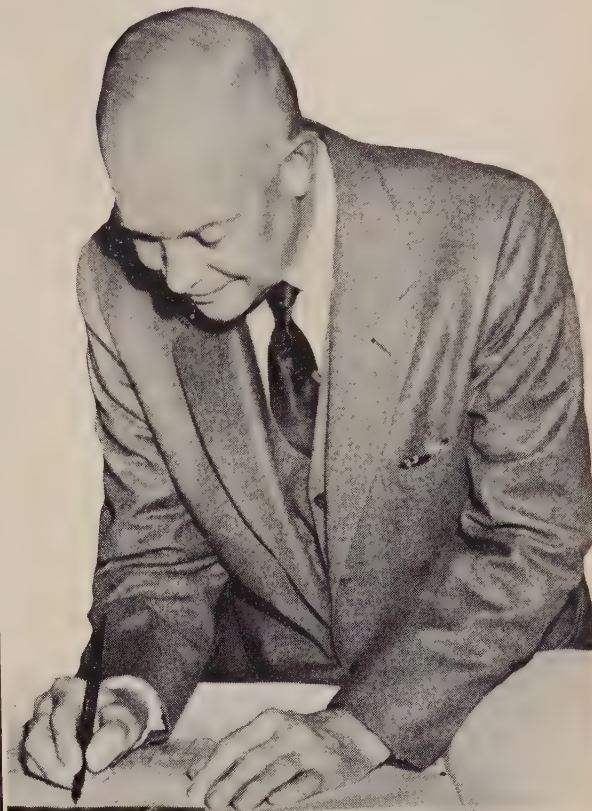
Long before this, the purpose of a devout and united people was set forth in the pages of the Bible: Moses led his people out of slavery toward the Promised Land. Their purpose was threefold: (1) to live in freedom, (2) to work in a prosperous land "flowing with milk and honey," and (3) to obey the commandments of God—within their own country and in their dealings with other nations.

This Biblical story of the Promised Land inspired the founders of America. It continues to inspire us, and we are privileged to hand it down, bright and strong, to every generation.

Dwight D. Eisenhower

A Letter from the President

Honoring Universal Bible Week



To read the Bible is to take a trip to a fair land where the spirit is strengthened and faith renewed.

—Dwight D. Eisenhower

A.B.S. ON THE AIR

WOR, New York

Sunday Radio Chapel

Dec. 11, 8:15-8:30 a.m., E.S.T. The Rev. Dr. James Z. Nettinga, A.B.S. Executive Secretary, "Everyman's Book."

Dec. 28, Dr. James Z. Nettinga, "Unto You This Day."

COLUMBIA BROADCASTING SYSTEM



The Rev. Dr. Laton E. Holmgren

Church Methodist Choir, Park Avenue, New York.

Church of the Air

Dec. 11, 9:30-10:00 a.m., E.S.T.

The Rev. Dr. Laton E. Holmgren, A.B.S. Executive Secretary: "The Most Valuable Thing."

Music: Christ

NATIONAL BROADCASTING SYSTEM

Lutheran Hour

Dec. 11, 1:30-2:30 p.m., E.S.T.

The Rev. Dr. Oswald C. J. Hoffman: "The Book for Everyone." Text: John 5:39

National Radio Pulpit, Dec. 11, 10-10:30 a.m., E.S.T. The Rev. Dr. Ralph W. Sockman: "The Word That Comes to Life."

The Bible Study Hour—Dec. 11, 8:30-9:00 a.m., E.S.T. The Rev. Dr. Donald Grey Barnhouse, speaker.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

The American Bible Society is happy to present a series of one-minute Daily Bible Readings, read by Mr. Ray Middleton, November 6 to December 5 and Mr. Ronald Reagan, December 6 to the close of the year. More than 300 radio stations will carry these readings. If you hear one we should appreciate your thanking the station and letting us know the time and the place.

OTHER RADIO PROGRAMS

Temple Time

Dec. 11, The Rev. Dr. Henry Bast of the Reformed Church in America: "The Book for Everyone."

Consult local newspapers for exact day and time.

"Be sure that Jesus shows!"



The children were arranging the figures of Mary, Joseph and the Christ Child in the little manger scene.

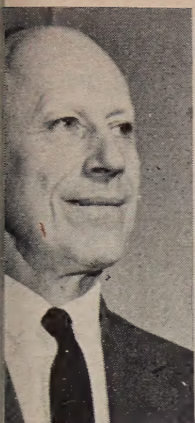
They lighted two tall candles and carefully tried them in various positions until the light fell exactly where they wanted



it. One child excitedly said: "Be sure that Jesus shows!" How wonderful it would be if from this joyous Day we could carry into our daily lives the thought, "Be sure that Jesus shows!" Like the candles, we can help direct attention to Christ by helping to provide Bibles through the American Bible Society.

Many children in other lands do not yet know the Light that has come to us from that manger. How thrilling it would be if each one of us would share a Gospel Portion containing the Christmas Message with another child of another land. In this way we would—"Be sure that Jesus shows!"





Scriptures Make the Incarnation a Contemporary Event*

By the Rev. Dr. Fredrik A. Schioltz, President of the American Lutheran Church

THE last several decades have witnessed an immense amount of Biblical research. The findings have underscored the dependability of Scriptural witness. Some years ago in Palestine I called at the American Schools of Oriental Research. Casually I asked the director, "What do your findings do

with the Scriptures? Do they establish the record, or do they compromise their dependability?"

Immediately he replied, "They establish the basic dependability of the Bible."

I am sure this reply describes the attitude which we at this Advisory Council hold toward the Scriptures. We are united in the promise that God speaks through the Scriptures, and are under compulsion to see to it that the Bible be made available to as many as possible.

The translation and distribution of Scriptures becomes a contemporary projection of the doctrine of the Incarnation. Dr. Wesley Sadler of the Africa Literacy and Writing Center at Kitwe, Northern Rhodesia, declared at the All-Africa Lutheran Conference in September, "Under a good program illiterate adults can learn to read almost anything in their own language within three months." When this occurs, Jesus Christ is no longer the Man of Nazareth who lived nearly two thousand years ago. He becomes a fellow countryman.

Two years ago, visiting a congregation of Eskimos at Nome, Alaska, I was approached rather timidly by one of the women. Cautiously she broke the news that her husband had prepared for me a painting of Christ but wondered whether I would consider it blasphemy that he had given Christ Eskimo features.

Here was a remarkable display of the essential truth of the Incarnation; God had spoken through the Scriptures to this Eskimo. He was under compulsion to show that "the Word became flesh" in a contemporary form. And he expressed his compulsion, even though he feared the white man might stupidly count his work blasphemy.

This making Christ contemporary for every man depends heavily upon the availability of Scriptures in his own language. Superintendent Pakendorf of the Berlin Mission Society in South Africa, speaking of this phenomenon, has said, "This Word of the Bible was not merely brought to Africa; it was brought to every tribe and to every linguistic group, however small and insignificant. Here the Man of Nazareth has become the Man of Africa; to the Mosotho,

He speaks Sesotho; to the Zulu, Zulu; to the Movhenda, Tshivhenda. Here He has become Brother, Guide, Friend and Saviour. He is not a foreigner, part of the white man's religion." The importance of allowing the Incarnation to express all the fullness of meaning God intends is doubly important in Africa while she is in the throes of an emerging freedom.

Recently I met a young man in East Africa who had committed a foul crime. The guilt of his act became oppressive. He came upon a New Testament in his own language, a book new to him. He opened it and began reading from Matthew 11. When he encountered the 28th verse, he was possessed of a feeling that this invitation was for him. Today he is an evangelist.

One often discovers that people with almost no formal education acquire phenomenal spiritual insight and wisdom under the tutelage of the Scriptures. Some years ago I visited a congregation at Old Moshi in Tanganyika. After the service the pastor called upon the oldest member of the congregation to make a presentation to me. Barefoot and dressed in tattered clothes, the man carried in his gnarled hands a baton carved from ebony wood, wrapped in a newspaper. Ebony is normally black, but there may be light spots where tree branches have grown from the trunk. The baton had a sizeable light spot at one end. The old man gripped the unwrapped baton in his two hands and stood before me. The telling part of his presentation occurred in these words: "Here I stand, a black man created by God. There you stand, a white man created by God. In this baton there is a light spot. It is not a different wood, but of one piece. So the black man and the white man are one in Christ."

In these words the African elder had quickly lifted us up to the ranks of nobility: men redeemed by the same Christ.

In this year of 1960, when the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches has chosen to recommend to the next Assembly that there should be added to the basis for membership the Nicene Formula "according to the Scriptures," we are on the threshold of fresh attention for the Bible. And wherever this happens, men are often impelled to declare with John of old, "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father."

*From an address presented at the American Bible Society's Advisory Council meeting in New York City, November 15, 1960.

Bible Society Record

Published Continuously Since 1818

A Journal Dedicated to the Wider Distribution and Use of the Holy Scriptures

Editors: THE SECRETARIES

Address correspondence to the

Managing Editor

450 Park Avenue

New York 22, N.Y.



Vol. 105 DECEMBER 1960 No. 10

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BE SURE TO READ IN
THE JANUARY ISSUE:
"HOW WE READ THE
BIBLE IN THE JUNGLE"
BY DR. ALBERT
SCHWEITZER

Meetings

September Meeting of the Board

A meeting of the Board of Managers of the American Bible Society was held at the Bible House on Thursday, September 8, 1960, at 3:30 p.m., President Daniel Burke in the Chair.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Secretary James Z. Nettinga.

The resignation of Mr. Charles S. Thomas as a Manager was accepted with deep regret.

The following resolution concerning the retirement of the Reverend Dr. William J. Platt was adopted:

The Board of Managers of the American Bible Society takes the occasion of the retirement of the Reverend Dr. William J. Platt as a General Secretary of the British and Foreign Bible Society to express its high appreciation and gratitude for his long service to the Bible cause.

William J. Platt shortly after World War I went to the Ivory Coast of Africa as a missionary in the Wesleyan Methodist Missionary Society's pioneering there. An important part of his service was following up the amazing work of Prophet Harris, a native evangelist of power, and building his converts into the church. At the end of Dr. Platt's service, in which he became superintendent of the mission, he was the leader of a solidly based Christian community of some 50,000 members. In 1930 he became the British and Foreign Bible Society's Secretary for Equatorial Africa. His appraisal of the opportunities and needs, as set forth in their missionary periodical, evidences his statesman-like grasp of that situation, now in creative ferment. In April 1935 he became his Society's Secretary for Youth Work, and two years later its Home Superintendent, responsible for the cultivation of support throughout the British Isles. In the latter post his gifts as a public interpreter of the cause and an organizer of its forces found most effective use. Few in these years could so graphically and impressively set forth the significance of this great cause in the complex world of today.

In 1947 he became Assistant General Secretary and in 1950 General Secretary. These and the years since have been the difficult postwar years. Handicaps of shortage of funds and of paper and of limited production capacity called for the most strenuous and unremitting effort, and in this Dr. Platt led his Society not only to its advantage but to the advantage of the whole cause. For in the United Bible Societies as well as in the British Society his vigor of mind and warm-hearted concern were of great influence.

The Board wishes for Dr. Platt enjoyable years of less heavy burdens as he maintains his touch with the work as Consultant General Secretary for the Dominions.

Bishop Lloyd C. Wicke was elected a ministerial member of the Board of Managers.

It was reported that a total of 5,918,914 volumes of the Scriptures was distributed in the United States during the first six months of 1960.

It was also reported that 2,500 copies of the New Testament in Haitian Creole had been shipped to Haiti, and that within a week there was not a copy left; and that a larger edition is now being printed to meet the urgent demand.

A first-edition copy of the volume containing Joshua, Judges and Ruth in Armenian Braille was presented, several copies having been sent to Beirut.

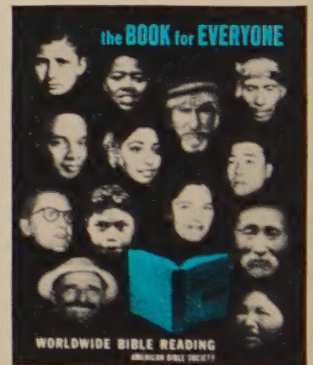
A letter of warm appreciation and thanks from Helen Keller, who was recently elected an Honorary Life Member, was read to the Board.

"Study to show thyself approved unto God . . . rightly dividing the word of truth." (2 Tim. 2:15)

DECEMBER

1.....	Isaiah.....	55:1-13
2.....	Jeremiah.....	31:1-9, 23-34
3.....	Romans.....	8:1-39
5.....	Matthew.....	5:1-16
6.....	Matthew.....	5:17-48
7.....	Matthew.....	6:1-34
8.....	Matthew.....	7:1-29
9.....	Matthew.....	4:12-25
10.....	Isaiah 9:27; Galatians	4:1-7
12.....	John.....	3:1-21
13.....	John.....	11:1-27
14.....	John.....	20:1-31
15.....	Romans.....	5:1-21
16.....	Isaiah.....	61:1-11
17.....	Luke 7:18-30; Matt.	11:25-30
19.....	1 Corinthians.....	13:1-13
20.....	1 Corinthians.....	15:1-28
21.....	1 Corinthians.....	15:35-58
22.....	2 Corinthians.....	4:7-5:10
23.....	Philippians.....	3:7-21
24.....	Luke.....	2:1-20
25 Christmas		
	John.....	1:1-18
26.....	Colossians.....	1:1-29
27.....	1 Thessalonians.....	4:13-5:11
28.....	Hebrews.....	12:1-29
29.....	James.....	1:1-27
30.....	Revelation.....	21:1-27
31.....	Revelation.....	22:1-21

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A reference index for the 1960 issues of the Bible Society Record is available without charge. You may secure a copy by addressing your request to the Managing Editor, American Bible Society, 450 Park Avenue, New York 22, N.Y.

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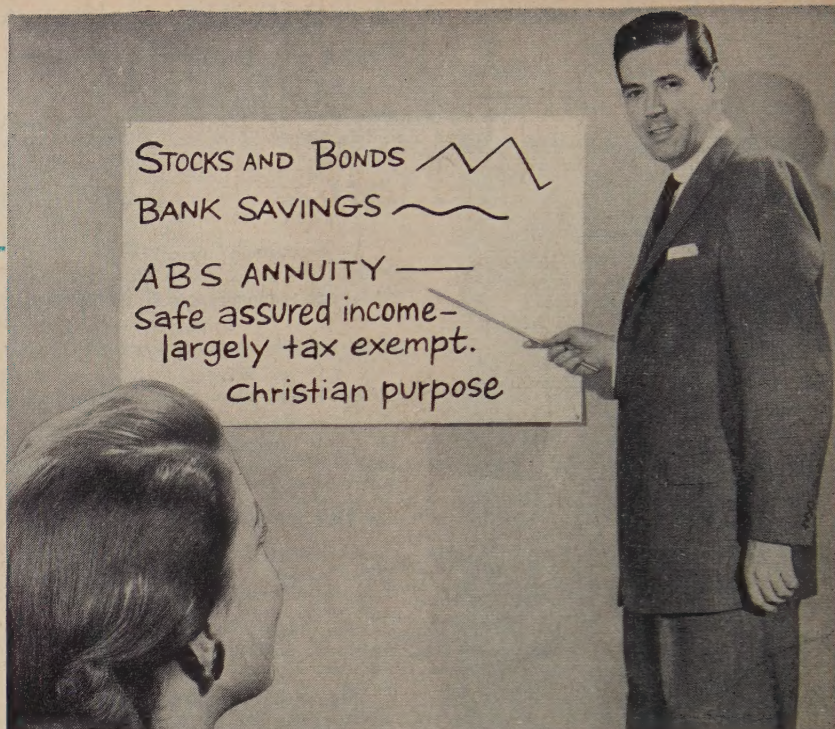
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